Ramtil Crop

*196. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether 'Ramtil' is the prinicipal crop of tribal areas of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the total area under cultivation of this crop and the total production of this crop during 1990-91, 1991-92, 1992-93, 1993-94 and as on date, district-wise;

(c) whether Government have declared its support price;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR):

(a) Ramtil (Niger) is one of the principal crops of some of the tribal dominated districts of Madhya Pradesh.

(b) Total area under cultivation and production of niger during 1990-91 to 1993-94 in Madhya Pradesh district-wise is annexed as a statement (*See* below).

(c) to (e) Niger i.e. Ramtil is not one of the crops for which Minimum Support Price (MSP) is declared by Government of India. However, the proposal to bring this commodity under the purview of Minimum Support Price scheme has been approved and CACP has been requested to recommend minimum support price for nigerseed.

Statement

Area in Hectares Production in Tonnes

District	1990-91		1991-92		1992-93		1993-94	
	Area	Production	Area	Production	Area	Production	Area	Production
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Sagar	1700	300	1500	200	1500	200	1500	200
Jabalpur	4300	1000	4200	600	4500	1000	4000	900
Mandla	39700	10200	33800	3500	36500	5300	38900	9000
Narsimpur	900	300	1000	400	800	300	700	300
Betul	13000	2200	11400	1000	11800	1600	12200	190
Chindwara	37800	8100	25900	2100	29700	4500	30100	8400
Seoni	18700	4500	13400	900	14900	3000	14900	3600
Bilaspur	1800	400	1400	300	1400	300	1400	300
Sarguja	29400	4800	28500	4800	28800	3300	29100	4800
Raigarh	25700	4300	45200	6800	27100	4300	26400	4000
Bastar	22800	4000	22400	4300	22500	3400	23600	4100
Shivpuri	1200	200	900	100	800	200	900	200
Guna	3000	700	2500	300	3700	700	2600	500
Vidisha	600	100	300	100	600	100	500	100
Sidhi	3700	1400	2700	700	3100	900	3300	900
Shahdol	18300	4900	17900	3000	17500	4100	17500	4200
Chhatarpur	300	100	..	..	500	100	500	100
Others	2100	300	2300	200	2000	200	2500	300
State Total	225000	47800	215300	29300	207700	33500	210600	43800